

Amendments to the Specification

Change page 1, line 2, as follows:

COMPACTLY ARRANGED IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Change page 3, line 26 to page 4, line 5, as follows:

As described above, in the conventional apparatus, the image reading unit is arranged above the sheet finishing unit and the image forming unit is arranged ~~above~~ below the sheet finishing unit. In this case, after an image is formed on a sheet in the image forming unit, the sheet is transported in a direction same as a direction that the sheet is transported after being processed in the sheet finishing unit, and same as a direction that the image reading unit scans the sheet. Accordingly, there are the following problems in order to make the apparatus compact.

Change page 12, lines 10-17, as follows:

Accordingly, the sheets are transported through the discharge path 160 to the first discharge stacker 102 in the longitudinal direction of the maximum size sheet, and stored in the first discharge stacker 102. It is preferred that the sheet transport path 130 and the discharge path 160 extending from the sheet cassette 110 to the first discharge stacker 102 have a an S-shape section as shown in FIG. 2, so that the apparatus is made small.